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Application : <u>10/615974</u>	Examiner : <u>Durand, P</u>	GAU : <u>3721</u>
From: <u>ASC</u>	Location: IDC <u>FME</u> FDC	Date: <u>1/17/2006</u>
Tracking #: <u> </u>		Week Date: <u> </u>

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7590 10/06/2005

Philip S. Johnson
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Stacey Ascolese (Depositor's name)
Stacey Ascolese (Signature)
12/14/05 (Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/615,974	07/09/2003	Frederick E. Shelton IV	END909.0511036	1303

TITLE OF INVENTION: SURGICAL STAPLING INSTRUMENT INCORPORATING A TAPERED FIRING BAR FOR INCREASED FLEXIBILITY AROUND THE ARTICULATION JOINT

APPL. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$0	\$0	\$0	01/06/2006

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
DURAND, PAUL R.	3721	227-176100

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).
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Dean Garner

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)
PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc.

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY AND STATE OR COUNTRY)

4545 Creek Road
Cincinnati, OH 45242

Recordal Date 10/14/2003

Reel 014590 Frame 0426

Recordal Date 1/14/2005

Reel 016150 Frame 0835

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☒ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

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- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(e)(2).

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Authorized Signature

Typed or printed name Joseph F. Shirtz

Date Dec 14, 2005

Registration No. 31,880

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